Practitioner's Docket No.: 791_181 *PATENT*

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Akira MATSUMOTO and Masashi FUKUYAMA

Ser. No.: 10/036,325 Art Unit: 1772

Filed: December 26, 2001 Examiner: Not Assigned

Confirmation No.: 3228 EL872579325US

791-181

For: RIBBONED POLARIZATION-MAINTAINING FIBER AND MANUFACTURING METHOD THEREFOR, AND POLARIZATION-MAINTAINING OPTICAL FIBER ARRAY USING THE SAME

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on *March 11, 2002* under "EXPRESS MAIL" mailing label number EL872579325US.

Elizabeth A. VanAntwerp

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

IDENTIFICATION OF COPENDING APPLICATION

Sir:

The attention of the Patent Office is drawn to the copending application listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 which may contain technical subject matter related to that of the present invention.

A copy of the application is attached. This identification is not to be construed as a waiver of secrecy as to the cited application now or upon issuance of the present application as a patent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the cited application and the art cited therein during examination of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1446.

Respectfully submitted,

March 11, 2002
Date

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